

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. J. Paul Haun on 4/23/2009.

2. The claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (line 8), "transmitting a video stream from" has been changed to --transmitting the video stream from--.

Claim 1 (line 17), "the video stream processing command" has been changed to --the video stream processing commands--.

Claim 1 (line 23), "the video stream processing operation" has been changed to --the particular video stream processing operation--.

Claim 2 (line 3), "the video steam processing command" has been changed to --the video stream processing commands--.

Claim 13 (line 11), "steam processing operation" has been changed to --stream processing operation--.

Claim 13 (line 13), "the transmitting video terminal" has been changed to --the transmitting terminal--.

Claim 13 (line 14), “the previously defined image region” has been changed to --the defined image region--.

Claim 14 (line 3), “steam processing commands” has been changed to --stream processing commands--.

Claim 15 (line 1), “wherein selecting” has been changed to --wherein the selecting--.

Claim 16 (line 1), “wherein selecting” has been changed to --wherein the selecting--.

Claim 17 (line 1), “wherein selecting” has been changed to --wherein the selecting--.

Claim 18 (line 1), “wherein selecting” has been changed to --wherein the selecting--.

Claim 20 (line 1), “wherein video processing” has been changed to --wherein the video processing--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1-11, 13-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method for acting upon a video stream to be transmitted to a receiving terminal, the method comprising:

receiving in a transmitting command processing chain within the transmitting terminal, video stream processing commands from the receiving terminal to be executed by a transmitting video processing chain, said video stream processing commands including a definition of the image region of an image contained in the transmitted video stream, the definition of the image

region being associated with a particular video stream processing operation to be applied to the image region; and

executing the video stream processing commands by the transmitting video processing chain wherein the defined image region is selected and the particular video stream processing operation is applied to the defined image region in the video stream.

Claims 2-8 are allowed as being dependent from claim 1.

Regarding claim 9, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a system for controlling a first remote video processing chain producing a video stream which is transmitted to a first terminal via a telecommunication network, the system comprising:

wherein the video stream processing commands executable by the first remote video processing chain comprise image processing commands to be applied to an image region, the image processing commands including a definition of the image region an image contained in the transmitted video stream, the image region associated with a definition of a processing operation to be applied to the image region, and the executing means installed in the first remote video processing chain comprise selection means to select the image region defined in the processing commands that is to be applied to the image region, and application means to apply the processing operation defined in the image processing commands to the image region selected in the video stream.

Claims 10-11 are allowed as being dependent from claim 9.

Regarding claim 13, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method for acting upon a video stream to be received from a transmitting terminal, the method comprising:

transmitting video stream processing commands from a receiving command processing chain within the receiving terminal to the transmitting terminal, the video stream processing commands being executed by a transmitting video processing chain in the transmitting terminal, the video stream processing commands including a defined image region of an image to be acted upon in the video stream, the defined image region being associated with a particular video stream processing operation to be applied to the defined image region;

receiving in the receiving video processing chain an acted upon video stream from the transmitting terminal, wherein the video processing commands have been applied to the defined image region.

Claims 14-20 are allowed as being dependent from claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID L. OMETZ can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David L. Ometz/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
2622

/L. T. N./
Examiner, Art Unit 2622
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